

OWL Weekly Email

May 30, 2023

In an effort to increase communication with our students and families, we send a weekly email on Sunday evenings or Monday mornings highlighting upcoming school events. This information will also be shared with students in Schoology and in Crew on Mondays. Events are listed in chronological order.

NEW! Native American Culture Night is this Wednesday, May 31st from 6:00-8:00pm. There will be performances, dinner, games, and a raffle. We hope everyone can come!

Celebration of Learning is Friday, June 2 from 4-6 PM: Come see the high-quality work from the 2022-2023 school year. There will be an ice cream truck from 4-6 PM and food for sale following the Celebration at 6 PM.

The Student Library Advisory Council (SLAC) is hosting a book exchange during this year's Celebration of Learning! Do you have books piling up at home? Bring them to the Celebration of Learning and share them with the OWL community. Are you looking for something new to read over the summer? Come browse the donated titles and take home some free books! Any donations are welcome, and there will be plenty of books for everyone.

8th grade Passage Celebration is Friday, June 9 from 9:30 to 11 AM: Families of 8th graders are invited to come celebrate their

student's completion of middle school as they prepare for the start of high school.

NEW! Calling all 9th/10th graders! Have you taken the Critical Ethnic Studies class? We want your Capstone Projects at our CES Student Showcase on June 10th. You can choose to have your project on display only or you can present your project at the showcase. Find more information [HERE](#). Please submit your project to Rebekah Rentzel OR at bit.ly/capstone-submission

Attention families of Grade 9 and 10: Critical Ethnic Studies Student Showcase hosted by the SPPS Ethnic Studies

Department:

Date: Saturday June 10, 2023

Time: 9 am - 2 pm

Location: Washington Technology Magnet Secondary (Great Hall), 1495 Rice St, St Paul, MN 55117

The purpose of this event is to highlight students' learning, growth and experience through the Critical Ethnic Studies course (new graduation requirement). Students will have opportunities to share their Final Capstone Project, attend workshop sessions and listen to guest speakers. This is a collaborative space for young people to practice and model the 7 Principles of Ethnic Studies (Self Love, Honor, Community, Critical Consciousness, Resistance, Hope, and Visualization) with their peers and extended school community.

This is a student-centered space created with the help of SPPS and Macalester students. SPPS family and community members are welcome to attend as well.

Deadline for [registration](#) is **June 5th, 2023**.

If you have questions, please reach out to the CES Showcase Planning Committee at ethnicstudies.dept@spps.org.

Graduation is Tuesday, June 13 at 7:30 PM: Come celebrate the Commencement of the Class of 2023 at O'Shaughnessy Auditorium at St. Kate's. Everyone is invited!

The Last Day of School is Wednesday, June 14: Students will have a fun day with their Crews and attend a final Community Meeting.

NEW! Join the Mountain Bike Team - SPYMTB.org

Though the mountain bike team competes in the fall (races are optional), training starts over the summer, and sign-ups are going on now! Visit SPYMTB.org OR, send an e-mail to info@spymtb.org to express interest. Be sure to include the name of your school and our grade for the fall. Team is open to grades 6-12 and is composed of riders from across Saint Paul, Mendota Heights and West Saint Paul. Practices begin in July on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Racing begins end of August.

OWL has a new Podcast designed to feature student voices.

Season 1 is being published now and you can listen to some amazing migration stories from Nora's and Luke's 9/10 classes. Find "OWL Celebrates Learning" on the podcatching app on your device or visit www.OWLCelebratesLearning.com to see show

notes, listen in your browser, or see other High Quality Work from OWL students.

Orders of OWL Spirit Wear should be ready for delivery over the next couple weeks. Apologies for the delay and thank you all for your support! Orders will be distributed through crew leaders in school. I will update everyone when I know the exact delivery date. If you have any questions email spiritwearOWL@gmail.com

School Newspaper: Click [HERE](#) to read the latest edition of the Purple Press

Visual Art Projects: If you would like to see a slideshow of the 7th grade Minnesota Species Project art, [CLICK HERE](#). If you would like to see a slideshow of the 8th grade Greeting Card Project, [CLICK HERE](#). If you would like to see the 9-12th Grade Collage Project First Semester, [CLICK HERE](#). If you would like to see the 9-12th Grade Portrait Project First Semester, [CLICK HERE](#).

An important message from Nurse Colleen:

Each day, please continue to observe and monitor your child/children closely for any signs or symptoms that they are not feeling well and keep them home to watch closely to see if symptoms persist or worsen. Staying home when sick can lower

the risk of spreading infectious diseases, including the virus that causes COVID-19, to other people. Students, staff and visitors must conduct their own symptom screening prior to coming to school/work, and again when arriving at any SPPS facility, and throughout the day.

ILLNESS AND SENDING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL

- Keep your child home if they:
 - Have a fever of 100 degrees or more during the previous evening or night or in the morning.
 - Have vomited or had diarrhea during the night or in the morning.
 - Have a rash that may be caused by a disease or if the cause is unknown, check with your family physician **before** sending the student to school.

If a student is at home sick, please call the school attendance line daily to report the reason for absence.

COVID-19:

Find resources and locations at spps.org/covidvaccine.

Time to Order your OWL Yearbook 2022-2023: Use [THIS LINK](#) to order your very own yearbook.

Summer Opportunities:

Information on a program with Free Meals during the Summer:

Hunger Impact Partners, a non-profit organization working with the Minnesota Department of Education to promote free summer meals for kids across the state. For more information, [GO TO THIS LINK](#).

No registration or prior sign-up is necessary for most sites. The sites which require prior registration are clearly marked on the site information. There are also free serving sites across the state at school, parks, recreation centers, community centers, and libraries. All kids up to age 18 can locate the nearest site, show up at the right time, and eat.

Download the free app via the app store on your smartphone, simply search "Free Meals for Kids"

App Store: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/summer-eats-minnesota/id1230666424>

Google Play: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.app.p3703BA&hl=en_US

Please feel free to forward this email to others you feel share your interest in supporting kids and summer nutrition!

Questions: info@hungerimpactpartners.org

Community Service Opportunity: Get some service hours and help out in the community! The West Side Farmers Market has volunteer opportunities this summer on Saturday mornings at Icy Cup (June 3-October 7).

Opportunities include **help set up** (7-8 am) **work at the community table** (7-10 am & 10-1 pm; help customers, collect donations, complete sales), and **general market assistant** (8-11 am & 10-1 pm). [Here's a link to our SignUp form.](#)

Summer Camps at Saint Paul College – very affordable, amazing summer camp experiences. [Click here for more information.](#)

Summer camps at MCTC: even more awesome camps. [Click here](#) for more information

SPPS Summer Quest Program for Middle School Students: Go [HERE](#) for more information about a STEAM summer program for grades 5-8.

SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAMS | High School Students - Current 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Graders

SPPS Credit Recovery (summer school):

- High school students who owe core credits will be enrolled for summer school by Jolene.
- Summer school sites for grades 9-10: Humboldt
- Summer school sites for grades 11-12: Como
- Recovery Network for grades 9-12: Online
- Term 1 (June 26-July 20), Term 2 (July 24 -August 11). **All students will be referred to start term 1 and in-person learning.**
- School hours: 8:45 2:45
- Students can be enrolled up to 3 classes per session, each course carries 2 credits

OWL core credits that students can recover:

- English: English 9, 10, 11, 12
- Science: Biology, Chemistry, Physics
- Social Studies: World History, Human Geography, US History, Government, Economics
- Math: Geometry, Algebra 2

- Health

Grad Stats/Credit Information:

- Crew leaders will share graduation status at Student-Led Conferences
- Transcripts can be viewed on Campus portals

Important! Students should bring their fully charged iPads to school every day.

- **Current SPPS Student Enrollment Process & Timeline**
 - Students work with their school year counselor to apply.
 - Transportation information will be mailed to students through U.S. Mail two weeks prior to the start of session.
 - Student schedules will be available through Student Portal the Friday prior to the start of session

If you have any questions about summer school and/or your student's credits, feel free to email OWL High School Counselor: jolene.yang@spps.org. For summer enrichment programs, contact the Department of Alternative Education at 651-744-8020.

OWL Community Group Facebook Page: If you use Facebook and want to stay connected to other OWL families, [HERE IS THE LINK](#) to the OWL family page.

One proven way to live a happy life is to express gratitude. Is there a staff member at OWL that has done something you are grateful for? Shoot them an email! An alternative and way has

been made available by filling out [this link](#). (This form requires an email but is sent anonymously.)

Important Reminder about Attendance:

If your child is going to miss school, please call, email or write a note to explain the reason for the absence. If we do not hear from you, the absence is documented as unexcused. After 3 days of unexcused absences, you will receive a letter from the school reminding you to please communicate with us so the absence(s) may be documented accurately. If your child continues to miss school, unexcused, he/she will be referred to the SAM (School Attendance Matters) Program for intervention.

The following reasons for absence qualify as an excused absence; illness, doctor, dental or therapy appointment (please be sure to obtain a note to give to the school), extreme family emergency or religious holiday not already recognized by our school district. When a student misses 3 or more class periods in one day, this is considered to be a full day of absence. Please call us if you have any questions/concerns.